

**Minutes of Great Haseley Parish Council Meeting held on  
Monday 10 March 2025 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllrs H Blythe, J Brown, C Groves, D Lindsay, R Sheehan, T Suter, P Woodrow and A Oughton (Clerk) together with 5 members of the public.

**24/139 Public Discussion and Public Questions**

A resident who spoke at the meeting in January asked if there had been any progress on his proposal for easing traffic congestion on the interchange between the old A40 and A329? The Chairman reported that he had written to the Chairman of local parish councils with a view to arranging a meeting to discuss the proposal.

**24/140 Apologies for Absence**

There were no apologies.

**24/141 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**

Cllr Blythe declared an interest in planning applications related to 14 Mill Lane, Great Haseley as the owner and applicant and did not take part in discussion or vote on the items.

Cllr Woodrow declared an interest in the planning application related to the Village Hall, Great Haseley as the applicant and member of the Village Hall Committee and did not take part in discussion or vote on the item.

**24/142 Minutes**

Minutes of the meetings held on 13 January 2025 and 10 February 2025 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**24/143 Haseley Trading Estate**

The Head of Development and Corporate Landlord for South Oxfordshire and Vale of the White Horse District Councils together with a colleague provided an update on Haseley Trading Estate.

The joint District Councils purchased the trading estate in December 2024. Since the purchase the site has been secured by fencing and work to remove trees from the woodland which have been identified as unsafe. A public footpath runs through the site.

Current focus is on conducting surveys and information gathering that will inform a potential planning application for development of the site related to logistic requirements of the district councils. A public consultation is planned for 28 April 2025 between 3-7pm at Pine Lodge, Little Milton. A leaflet drop is planned to inform residents of the consultation.

The council thanked the officers for the update and shared concerns related to possible light pollution and vehicles parking on verges outside the site. It was suggested that the planning application / development may help lobby Oxfordshire County Council regarding a safe pedestrian crossing and weight restriction on the A329.

## 24/144 Planning

### **P25/S0451/FUL - Village Hall, Rectory Road, Great Haseley, OX44 7JG**

Proposal to widen existing doorway to enable disabled access to village hall.

**Resolved to Fully Support** the application

### **P25/S0267/HH & P25/S0268/LB - 14 Mill Lane, Great Haseley, OX44 7JU**

Creation of a Driveway Entrance, section of the existing wall will be re-opened to allow for the installation of a 3-metre-wide, 5-bar gate to provide access to the driveway. Retaining Wall: A stone-clad retaining wall will be constructed inside the property to support the driveway. Verge Modifications: The verge will be opened up and tapered with a gentle sweep on both sides into the driveway. Steps Installation: Steps will be installed in the northwest corner of the driveway to provide access to the house.

**Resolved to Fully Support** the application with the comment that if approved by the District Planning Authority, a traffic management plan should form part of the permission.

### **P25/S0445/HH - The Stone Yard, Back Way, Great Haseley, OX44 7JP**

Two storey extension to side with single storey glazed extension to front.

**Resolved to Fully Support** the application with the following comment: If approved, the conditions below should form part of the permission:

- Back Way is a single-track road and must be kept clear during development works.
- All trades associated with the development must park on site.
- Any damage to Back Way caused by vehicles associated with the development must be made good.

## 24/145 Financial Report

Bank statements to 28 February 2025 had been circulated. Income for the month in the current account: £1,299.67 grant from the Trust for Oxfordshire Environment (ToE) and £2,500.00 grant from South Oxfordshire District Council for the purchase of flood mitigation equipment. Expenditure is as previously approved. Reserve account income of £42.85 relates to monthly interest received.

## 24/146 Payments

The following payments were approved: £79.56 Shield Maintenance Ltd, £550.00 St Peter's Church (donation towards the cost of annual grass cutting of churchyard), £71.76 Parish Administration.

Direct Debit – Castle Water £9.57

## 24/147 Financial Management & Risk Assessment

The Financial and Management Risk Assessment was reviewed.

**Resolved to approve** the Financial and Management Risk Assessment with an amendment to include the management of risk related to performing online banking transactions in the absence of the Clerk.

## 24/148 Internal Audit

The Clerk proposed that Mr Heinrich is approached to carry out the Internal Audit for 2024/25.

**Resolved** to appoint Mr Heinrich as Internal Auditor for 2024/25. The Scope of Work was approved.

#### **24/149 Speeding Vehicles**

Discussion took place on possible ways to slow traffic on the approach to and through the village. These might include, electronic speed indicator signs, village entrance gates and chicanes. The consensus was that the introduction of 20mph speed limit has reduced vehicle speeds but more can be done. It was agreed the next step is to consult residents to gather their views.

#### **24/150 Flood Mitigation**

Following the successful grant application to SODC for funds to purchase flood mitigation equipment, Cllr Sheehan proposed to purchase a Flood Kit but to remove the puddle pumps from the kit and increase the number of hydro snake pads to the value of the grant, £2,500. The proposal was agreed.

#### **24/151 Recreation Ground**

A quote to repair the swing bay was presented. The total cost, including matting, is £2,755.00 excluding VAT. Agreed to pay for an inspection of the equipment and the recommendations brought back to a future meeting.

#### **24/152 Village Hall**

A copy of the original conveyance document was circulated ahead of the meeting confirming the Parish Council is the owner of the village hall. Agreed the Parish Council applies to Land Registry to formally register the land on which the village hall sits but will first seek advice on whether there are any implications that might prevent the Parish Council from applying.

Regarding repairs to the shed roof, an electrician is due to carry out work on Wednesday evening after which Cllr Woodrow will make a start on work to the roof.

#### **24/153 Grass Cutting**

A quotation to keep the cost of grass cutting in 2025 the same as the previous year has been submitted by the existing contractor. It was **resolved** to accept the quotation total of £3,120.00 excluding vat.

#### **24/154 Allotments**

The Allotment Rules and Tenancy Agreement for 2025 were approved.

#### **24/155 Village Tidy Day**

It was agreed to hold the annual Village Tidy Day on Saturday 26 April 2025. Cllr Woodrow to draw up a list of tasks. Linda Woodrow will provide refreshments.

#### **24/156 Projects**

Public Art – a presentation is planned for the next Pop-Up Pub to gather ideas. The Chairman thanked Cllr Blythe for moving this forward.

Neighbourhood Plan – it was agreed that the Neighbourhood Plan boundary should mirror that of the parish.

**24/157 Reports from Committees / District and County Councillors**

District Councillor Georgina Heritage had circulated her monthly report and highlighted the following: diligent financial management has ensured that South Oxfordshire District Council can deliver a balanced budget for 2025-26 and marks the first time in nine years that the council has not needed to transfer funds from reserves.

The District Councillor grant budget will increase by 50%, to £7,500 per Councillor, while the Capital and Revenue grant schemes for voluntary organisations will continue. An event is being held at Cornerstone Arts Centre in Didcot on 20 March, with appointments available to book 12.30-4pm to help organisations plan their applications.

Agreed Cllr Blythe will take on councillor responsibility for footpaths.

**24/158 Information Exchange**

The Chairman had received an email from a resident highlighting that the dog waste bin at the end of the road to Sands Farm is firmly attached to its post but unfortunately the post is no longer fixed into the ground. Secondly, the net for the basketball hoop has been pulled from most of its fixings and hanging loose. It was agreed that both items will be repaired.

**24/159 Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting will take place on 12 May 2025, on the rising of the Annual Parish Meeting in the Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm.

*{Note if any planning applications are received that require consideration before the next scheduled meeting, an additional meeting of the parish council will be held on 14 April 2025}.*

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.35pm

.....  
Chairman  
12 May 2025